

COMPLETE COUNTER CATALOG OF

*Kay*

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS





not a guitar...

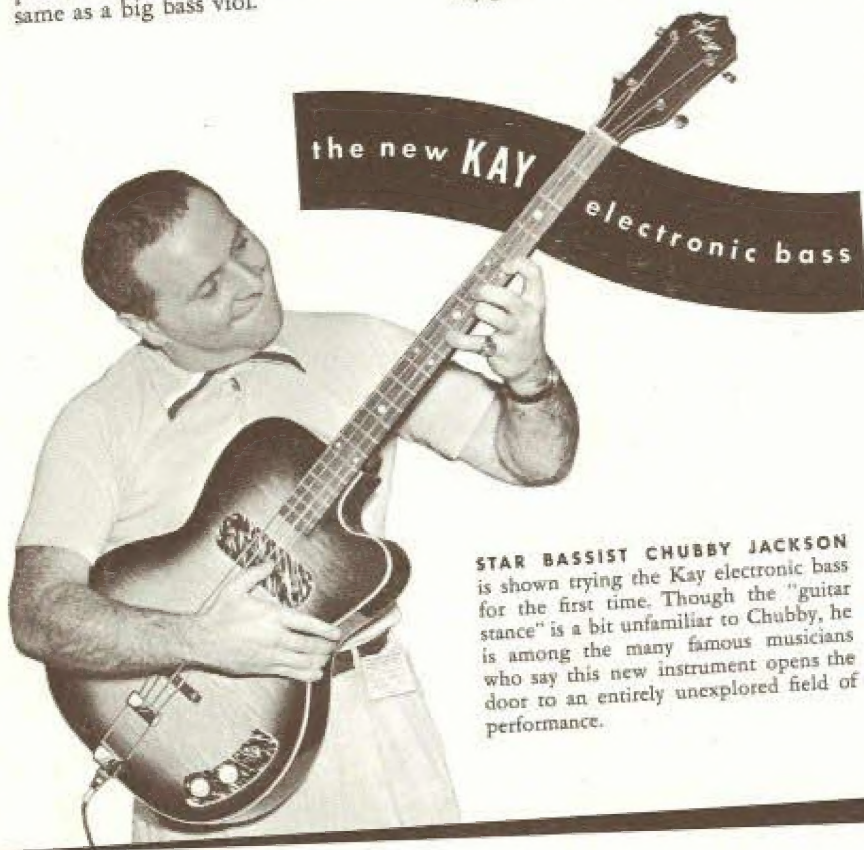
# IT'S A BIG BASS VIOL!

It's held like a guitar, looks like a guitar...and is played like a guitar. BUT the pitch, range and tone quality are the same as a big bass viol.

A product of nearly 10 year's research, it opens an entirely new field of performance to thousands. Here's a bass viol any guitarist can play almost overnight!

## ANNOUNCEMENT EXTRAORDINARY!

*This is the announcement that startled the music world! Since this original announcement appeared, the Kay Electronic Bass, truly the modern miracle of electronics, has proved itself with hundreds of enthusiastic owners.*



**STAR BASSIST CHUBBY JACKSON** is shown trying the Kay electronic bass for the first time. Though the "guitar stance" is a bit unfamiliar to Chubby, he is among the many famous musicians who say this new instrument opens the door to an entirely unexplored field of performance.

### DOORWAY TO NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR GUITAR AND BASS PLAYERS

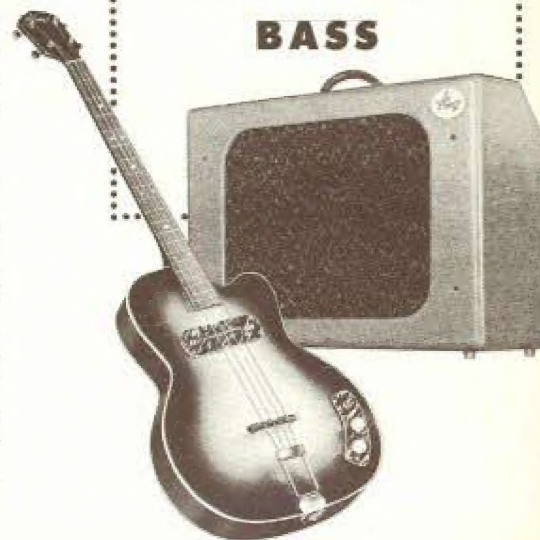
Now, virtually every guitar player can double on bass. Solo and rhythm effects are practically unlimited—giving new tone and color to any ensemble. Greater volume is possible with less effort—a turn of the control knob raises or lowers volume. Easy to finger...easy to master, particularly for the guitar player. *Actual bass pitch.*

Nearly ten years of Kay research is behind the development of this new bass "voice." Special strings assure true bass tone and fast, easy action. Same range and tuning as a conventional bass viol. Scale length is 30¼"—only 4½" more than a regular guitar. Overall length is 44". Body width is 15¼". Depth at end pin is 2½". Weight is only 6½ pounds.

**Model K-162 Kay Electronic Bass.....\$150 (A)**  
**Sturdy, plush lined carrying case.....\$18.25 (A)**

**K-615 A powerful, high fidelity, heavy duty amplifier—six tubes, 15" JENSEN heavy duty permanent magnet speaker for full, low bass tones. Size: 19" high, 24" wide and 10" deep. Input for 3 instruments and mike. Amplifier only.....\$157.50 (A)**

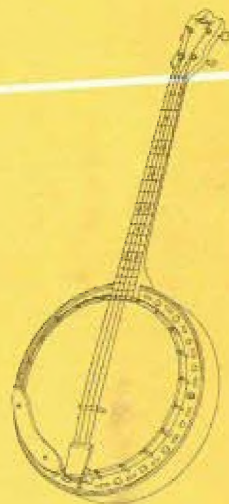
## KAY electronic BASS





*Kay*

**FRETTED INSTRUMENTS**





# Kay

## QUALITY CRAFTSMANSHIP

SINCE 1890

Besides performance and styling, there's another good reason why *Kay* is one of the most popular, most respected names in guitars. That's serviceability . . . guaranteed by the factory\*. With reasonable care, a *Kay* stays new indefinitely. Back and sides will not warp or split . . . because they are bonded thin plies of select hardwoods. Slender, easy-playing necks are designed to stay in true alignment, particularly the models with metal truss rod insert and maple-ebony bonded sections. Tuning gears are precision-built for long, carefree service. And everything else about the instrument, from frets to finish, reflect the high quality standards of specialists whose heritage dates back to 1890. From an *investment* standpoint, too, you'll be glad you selected a *Kay*. Models are seldom changed. This means the instrument you buy will not be quickly outmoded by "face lifting" style alterations. So, be sure you see and play a *Kay*. If your dealer doesn't have the model of your choice for you to try, he'll be glad to order it—without obligation.

*H. Kay Fuhrmeyer*  
President

KAY MUSICAL INSTRUMENT CO.

### \*THE KAY GUARANTEE

We guarantee this instrument to the original purchaser against defects in material or workmanship for one year from the date of purchase. We agree to repair or replace the instrument, without charge, if found to be defective due to any fault of ours. Transportation costs involved are to be paid by the customer. This guarantee does not cover natural wear of the instrument, replacement of strings or mishandling.



*The Kay Musical Instrument Company is also the world's largest manufacturer of bass viols and cellos. Catalog is available on request.*



what to look for in the guitar you buy...



Two particularly important questions to ask yourself when trying a new guitar are: Is the instrument easy to hold? Is the neck designed for quick, easy progressions?

You'll find every Kay has an artist-type, slendertized neck for effortless playing... hour after hour. And rounded frets are precisely adjusted for ease of fingering and perfect intonation.

Next, check volume and carrying power. A Kay's outstanding performance is the result of more than 60 years of research and experience in building string instruments. You will discover that

precise acoustical engineering, expert regulation, proper use of the right woods and exclusive methods of construction "pay off" in the way a Kay plays.

Also note the instrument's appearance. True functional beauty is the styling keynote of a Kay... appearance that's distinctive and in good taste. Finishes, too, are time-tested for durability and lasting beauty.

Tuning gears, strings, guardplates, bridges and tailpieces... which can mean the difference between superlative and ordinary performance, are always finest quality on Kay guitars.

Compare all these features before you buy, and you'll agree... dollar for dollar, Kay guitars offer you the most by far in performance, styling and durability.

*Kay's Finest...*

## THE CUT-AWAY PROFESSIONAL K-21

*Here is an entirely new guitar—  
new in acoustical design, new in appearance,  
and new in the way it responds.*



"Seal Fast" individual heads give positive, precision tuning



Beautiful curly grain "fiddle-back" maple back of K-21B blonde



Neck is of banded maple and ebony with metal rod insert



The K-21S possesses a tone so rich and resonant—it is so easy to play—it establishes a new standard of performance in professional Spanish guitars. Arched top is carved from a solid block of choice aged, close-grained spruce. Back and sides are of select, very curly "fiddle-back" maple, with edges bound in extra wide, heavy-weight celluloid. Master size, 42" over-all length, 17" body width. Slenderized 7-ply laminated hard "rock" maple neck reinforced with a special metal truss rod for permanent rigidity. Oval ebony extension fingerboard has hand inlaid mother-of-pearl position markers, heavy nickel silver frets—trimmed with heavy white celluloid binding with black side dots. The extra large headpiece is black celluloid with hand inlaid mother-of-pearl, edged with white celluloid. Massive white celluloid binding around "F" holes. Other refinements: Seal-fast individual heads, black celluloid wedge and white celluloid heelplate. Special heavy-weight guardplate, with extension bracket and engraved with Kay shield. Deluxe adjustable bridge of ebony. Flat wire wound strings for smooth, easy, effortless playing. Deluxe hand rubbed and polished finish. Beautifully shaded dark reddish walnut with a large golden sunburst on top and back. **\$200**

K-21B Natural blonde finish.....\$200

A PROFESSIONAL SERIES KAY GUITAR...



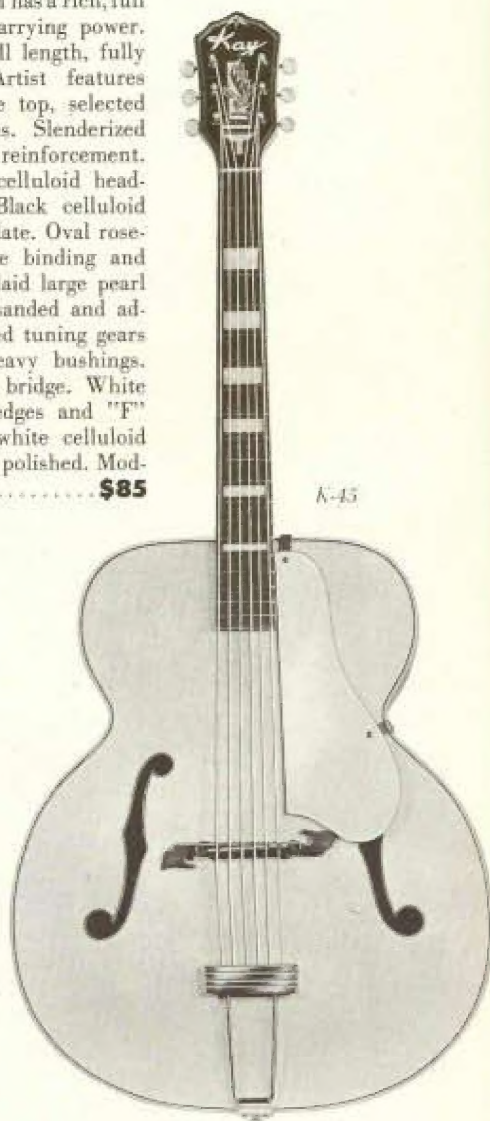
## ARCHED KEYS

# PROFESSIONAL



K-115

**K-45** This professional model has a rich, full tone, concert volume and carrying power. Large master-size, 42" over-all length, fully arched body, 17" wide. Artist features throughout, such as: Spruce top, selected curly maple back and sides. Slenderized 5-ply maple neck with steel reinforcement. Attractively engraved shell celluloid headpiece with white binding. Black celluloid wedge. White celluloid heelplate. Oval rosewood fingerboard with white binding and black side dots. Six hand inlaid large pearl squares, heavy frets. Hand sanded and adjusted bone nut. Nickel plated tuning gears with built-in covers and heavy bushings. Deluxe adjustable rosewood bridge. White celluloid binding on body edges and "F" holes. Large, heavy-weight white celluloid guardplate. Hand rubbed and polished. Modern blonde finish.....**\$85**



K-45

**K-115** This fine instrument produces a superb tone of great carrying power. Fully arched body, 17" wide, master-size Spanish guitar with professional "Cut-away" feature. Select, seasoned spruce top, select curly maple back and sides. Slenderized 5-ply laminated maple neck reinforced with a metal truss rod for permanent rigidity. Celluloid bound rosewood veneered headpiece with hand inlaid mother-of-pearl design. Celluloid bound oval rosewood fingerboard. Hand inlaid mother-of-pearl position markers; professional nickel silver frets. Large size, heavy-weight celluloid guardplate. Massive shell and white celluloid binding on body edges and around "F" holes. Deluxe adjustable rosewood bridge. Flat wire wound strings for smooth, easy playing. Individual tuning gears with built-in covers. Hand rubbed and polished. Beautifully shaded violin brown finish with sunburst on front and back.....**\$110**

K-11B Modern blonde finish.....**\$110**



K-11B

Kay purchases large quantities of select maple, spruce and mahogany logs—enough for producing thousands of guitars each year. This, in turn, means greater quantities of extra-select, exquisitely grained woods, set aside for the professional instruments. Backs of these fine guitars can therefore be compared only to the rare "fiddle-back" maple used in costly violins.



Specially designed cut-away greatly improves speed and precision in high register.



Thin, slender neck for easier progressions. Permanently rigid . . . five separate pieces of hard maple and ebony bonded together, plus special metal truss rod.



# KAY GUITARS

**FLAT  
TOP**



*features  
of the K-27*

**K-27** Our finest flat top guitar, this artist model is for the professional who demands exceptional playing qualities and striking, deluxe appearance. Large master-size body (17" wide) for big tone and carrying power. Over-all length, 42". Select close-grain spruce top with deluxe ribbing. Choice curly maple back and sides, extra deep (4 $\frac{1}{2}$ "). Flat top and back. 5-ply slenderized maple neck, metal reinforced. Heavy white and black celluloid binding on top and back edges and around soundhole. Black celluloid headplate with hand inlaid mother-of-pearl design, white celluloid binding. Oval ebony fingerboard with large hand inlaid mother-of-pearl position markers, white celluloid binding, black side dots and heavy nickel silver frets. Deluxe Venetian-shaped ebony bridge with white pins. Permanently fixed heavy white guardplate. Flat wire wound strings. Individual tuning gears with built-in covers. Hand rubbed and polished. Natural blonde spruce top with contrasting dark walnut finish on back and sides, golden sunburst on back.....**\$95**



Celluloid bound headpiece  
mother-of-pearl inlay



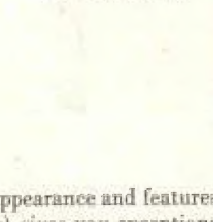
Extra deep 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " body for  
resonant tone



CUT-AWAY VIEW  
SHOWING  
U-SHAPED  
REINFORCEMENT  
BAR



5-ply bonded neck with  
insert rod



Top deluxe ribbed inside  
for added volume



**K-23** A professional model in appearance and features. Large master-size body (17" wide) gives you exceptional tone and carrying power. Over-all length, 42". Selected spruce top, curly maple back and sides. Flat top and back. 5-ply laminated maple neck, metal reinforced. Heavy shell and white celluloid binding on top, back edges and soundhole. Shell celluloid headpiece with attractive hand engraving and white celluloid binding. Selected oval rosewood fingerboard with 6 large hand inlaid mother-of-pearl position markers, white celluloid binding, black side dots, and heavy professional nickel silver frets. Shell celluloid wedge and white celluloid heelplate. Hand finished and adjusted bone nut. Deluxe tuning gears with built-in covers, heavy bushings. Deluxe rosewood bridge with white pins. Permanently fixed heavy shell celluloid guardplate. Hand rubbed and polished. Modern blonde finish.....**\$69.50**





K-22



K-15

K-10

**K-22** Large master-size body (17" wide) for big tone and carrying power. Over-all length, 42". Spruce top, mahogany back and sides, metal reinforced mahogany neck. Flat top and back. Top and back edges bound with white celluloid with heavy black inlay on top edge and soundhole. White heelplate. Headpiece bound with white celluloid. Oval rosewood fingerboard with 9 hand inlaid mother-of-pearl position markers, heavy frets and white celluloid binding. Nickel plated patent heads with built-in covers. Glued rosewood bridge with slant bone saddle and white celluloid pins. Large tear drop shape black celluloid guardplate. Natural blonde spruce top with contrasting dark mahogany back, sides, and neck. Hand rubbed and polished. An unusually fine guitar with a rich, vibrant tone..... **\$53.50**

**K-15** Super grand auditorium size. Body, 15 $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide. Over-all length, 40 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Spruce top, maple back and sides. Flat top and back. White celluloid binding on top and back edges and around soundhole. Oval rosewood fingerboard with four position markers and white celluloid binding. Deluxe patent heads, tear drop shape white celluloid guardplate. Glued-on rosewood bridge with white pins. Beautifully rubbed and polished rich dark color with large reddish sunburst on top and back. A very popular model with fine tone..... **\$32.50**

**K-15T** Tenor (specifications as above)..... **\$32.50**

**K-10** New low price for a Kay auditorium size Spanish guitar. Body, 15" wide. Over-all length, 40 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Genuine mahogany top, back and sides. Flat top and back. Edges and soundhole bound with white celluloid. Oval rosewood fingerboard with four position markers. Deluxe patent heads, white celluloid guardplate. Glued-on rosewood bridge with white pins. Rich lustrous natural mahogany finish. An outstanding value..... **\$27.50**



K-20

**K-20** Super grand auditorium size. Body, 15 $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide. Over-all length, 40 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Spruce top, curly maple back and sides. Select hardwood neck with metal reinforcement. Flat top and back. Edges bound with white celluloid, black and white celluloid inlay on top edge and around soundhole. Oval rosewood fingerboard with 9 position markers, white celluloid binding and black side dots. White celluloid heelplate. Tear drop shape white celluloid guardplate. Glued-on rosewood bridge with white pins. Deluxe patent heads with built-in covers. Good quality strings. Hand rubbed and polished. Shaded dark walnut finish with large sunburst on top and back..... **\$40**

moderately  
priced  
*Kay*  
flat top  
guitars



## moderately priced *Kay* arched guitars



K-1

**K-43** Large master-size body (17" wide) gives this model a rich tone, exceptional volume. Over-all length, 42". Spruce top, curly maple back and sides. Metal reinforced select hardwood neck. Fully arched. Heavy white celluloid binding on top and back edges with black and white celluloid inlay on top edge. White celluloid bound oval rosewood fingerboard with 9 large position markers. Heavy frets. White celluloid bound headpiece. Deluxe patent heads with built-in covers. White celluloid guardplate. Adjustable rosewood bridge. Hand rubbed and polished. Shaded dark walnut finish with large golden sunburst on top and back. **\$49.50**

**K-37** Super grand auditorium size. Body, 15½" wide. Over-all length, 40¾". Genuine mahogany top, back and sides. Metal reinforced mahogany neck. Fully arched. White celluloid bound top and back edges. Oval rosewood fingerboard, heavy frets, 4 large position markers, and white celluloid binding. Deluxe patent heads with built-in covers. Adjustable rosewood bridge. White celluloid guardplate. Hand rubbed and polished. Natural brown mahogany color. One of our most popular models. . . . **\$39.50**

K-37T Tenor (specifications as above) . . . \$39.50



K-43



K-37



K-34



K-30

**K-34** Super grand auditorium size. Body, 15½" wide. Over-all length, 40¾". Spruce top, laminated maple back and sides. Fully arched. Top and back edges bound with white celluloid. Oval rosewood fingerboard, heavy frets. Deluxe patent heads with built-in covers. Adjustable rosewood bridge. Trapeze-type tailpiece, nickel plated. White celluloid guardplate. Curly maple grained back, sides, and neck. Rubbed and polished. Shaded violin brown finish with large sunburst on top and back. An excellent value. . . . **\$33.50**

**K-30** New low price for a genuine Kay auditorium size guitar. Laminated maple top, back and sides. Fully arched, 15" width body. Over-all length, 40". White celluloid binding on top and back edges. Oval walnut fingerboard with four position markers. Deluxe patent heads. White celluloid guardplate. Adjustable rosewood bridge. Curly maple graining on sides, back and neck. Spruce grained top. Lustrous shaded walnut finish with golden sunburst on top and back. An exceptional value . . . **\$27.50**

**K-1** A wonderful value, this large master-size cut-away model with full 17" width body gives a tone of remarkable volume and carrying power. Over-all length, 42". Spruce top and curly maple back are fully arched. Curly maple sides. Extra wide heavy white celluloid binding on top and back edges with black inlay on top edge. Metal reinforced hard maple neck. Oval rosewood fingerboard bound in white celluloid has 9 position markers and professional type frets. Heavy white celluloid guardplate and white celluloid heelplate. Adjustable rosewood bridge. Deluxe patent heads with built-in covers. Hand adjusted bone nut for easy playing. Hand rubbed and polished. Shaded dark violin brown finish with large golden sunburst on top and back. . . . **\$65**

*A guarantee for  
one full year is included  
with each Kay Guitar.*





**K-161**  
spanish  
electric

moderately priced  
spanish electrics...

**K-125** Solid body Spanish electric guitar. Small, compact, easy to play. Full professional 25 $\frac{1}{4}$ " scale, yet instrument is only 37" long, body 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide. Select hardwood body. Oval fingerboard with heavy frets and four position markers. High fidelity magnetic pick-up unit with built-in tone and volume controls plus a "Hi-Low" selector switch that enables player to instantaneously switch from the rhythm bass tone to the high solo treble tones. Price, complete with neck cord and brackets, without amplifier. **\$49.50 (A)**  
No. 220-73 Carrying case for K-125. \$6 (A)

**K-150** An exceptionally fine electric guitar, Super grand auditorium size that's 41" long, 15 $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide. Powerful magnetic pick-up unit housed in rosewood holder with chrome cover. Built-in tone and volume controls. Body has fully arched spruce top, arched maple back and maple sides. Steel reinforced neck. White celluloid binding on top and back edges. Oval rosewood fingerboard with 9 position markers, also bound in white celluloid. Adjustable rosewood bridge. White celluloid guard-plate. Hand rubbed and polished, shaded violin brown finish, with golden sunburst on top and back. Price without amplifier. **\$60 (A)**

**K-151** A large master size cut-away "electric" with full 17" body, specially designed to produce a clear, rich tone. Deluxe type pick-up unit is small, compact and powerful, with individual adjustments for each string. Cover of unit is bright chrome. "Quick change" built-in tone and volume controls. Cord is detachable. Body has fully arched spruce top and curly maple back. Curly maple sides. Metal reinforced slenderized hard maple neck. Top and back edges are bound with white celluloid. Extra black and white celluloid inlay on top edge. Oval rosewood fingerboard has 9 large dots, heavy professional frets, and is bound in white celluloid. Deluxe patent heads have built-in covers. Rosewood bridge is adjustable. Guard-plate, heavy white celluloid. Hand rubbed and polished. Dark brown shaded finish golden sunburst top and back. Flat wire wound strings. Without amplifier. **\$92.50 (A)**

The K-161 "Thin Twin" is an entirely new development in electric guitars, exclusive with Kay. Its many innovations enable the professional to play with greater ease, greater speed—particularly in the high register, and with greatly improved tone quality. Three way "finger-tip" selector switch permits instantaneous changes from rhythm to solo playing without "missing a beat." It's an instrument of such advanced design, such remarkable performance, only a trial can possibly reveal its many advantages.

Illustration below shows the silhouette of the Kay "Thin Twin." Body is both thinner and smaller than conventional electrics, making it easier to hold and play. Also note the cut-away feature that expedites playing in the higher register.

*"Thin Twin"*

The unique feature of the K-161 is the *twin* pick-up units with the "Threeway" selector switch. The units are mounted in a solid bar which is a continuation of the neck. This type of mounting makes the entire playing scale very rigid, and produces a pure, concise electronic tone with much greater sustaining power. Electronic pick-ups are two separate units, each controlled by volume and tone control knobs. The "Three way" selector switch enables the player to switch instantaneously from the bass tones used for rhythm work to the brilliant, high treble tones for solo passages; the third or central position gives the true conventional electric guitar tone. Easy to play, comfortable to hold like a regular guitar, beautifully sustained tone and yet no heavier than a conventional two unit guitar.

**OTHER SPECIFICATIONS:** New thin auditorium size. Overall length, 40 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Body is 19 $\frac{1}{4}$ " long, 14 $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide at the bottom, 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ " wide at the top, 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " deep. Full professional 25 $\frac{1}{4}$ " scale. Top and back are of select curly maple. Sides are of mahogany. Top and back edges bound with white and shell celluloid. Large celluloid plate on top playing surface as illustrated. Slenderized 3-ply mahogany neck with special truss rod for permanent rigidity. Oval rosewood fingerboard with 6 large mother-of-pearl position markers. Fingerboard has six side dots, and is bound with white celluloid. Hand engraved shell celluloid headpiece with white celluloid binding. Deluxe individual patent heads with built-in covers. Finest flat wire wound strings. Beautifully hand rubbed and polished, with top and back in natural blonde maple, sides and neck in dark mahogany. Detachable cord. Price without amplifier (see opposite page) **\$125 (A)**

K-161 case. Chipboard, light brown Keratol. Plush lining accessory compartment. **\$15 (A)**





## YOUR CHOICE

of two

*Kay*

high fidelity amplifiers



**K-600** A powerful, high fidelity, heavy duty amplifier—designed and built to reproduce true distortion-free musical tones, from lowest bass to high treble, and at all volume levels. Striking large cabinet—yet well balanced for easy carrying. Size, 18" high, 24" wide and 10" deep. Attractive vinyl coated woven covering with contrasting grill. Leather handle. 12" Jensen heavy duty permanent magnet speaker permits volume that fills large auditorium. Six tubes, 16 to 20 watt distortion-free output. Three inputs for instruments with tone and volume controls. Separate microphone input with volume control. Controls are mounted on a slant panel at the top of amplifier for easy accessibility. . . . . **\$145 (A)**

**K-615** Same specifications as above but with 15" Jensen heavy duty permanent magnet speaker. Recommended for those who want to emphasize the full low bass tones. . . . . **\$157.50 (A)**



**K-300** Top quality 3-tube amplifier. Full 8-inch speaker for fine reproduction. Designed to give long trouble-free service. Attractive two tone covering with contrasting grill. 15 3/4" wide, 12" high, 7 1/4" deep. Leather handle. Two inputs, volume control, fuse and on-and-off switch. . . . . **\$61.50 (A)**



## Kay Hawaiian electrics

**K-159** A Kay masterpiece both in performance and in styling. Solid mahogany body, natural brown, hand rubbed and polished finish. Contrasting natural curly maple top. Extra heavy shell on white celluloid fingerboard with 12 attractive hand engraved position markers, white celluloid binding. White celluloid bound shell celluloid headpiece with engraved design. Deluxe individual tuning gears with built-in covers, white buttons. Chrome-plated metal covered deluxe magnetic pick-up unit mounted on heavy shell on white celluloid plate. Engraved celluloid hand rest. Fingertip tone and volume controls. Detachable cord. Without amplifier. . . . . **\$75 (A)**  
Carrying case for K-159. . . . . **\$10 (A)**



**K-156** Student model Hawaiian electric guitar. Attractive tan finish with contrasting dark brown stencilled fingerboard and design. Powerful magnetic pick-up unit with built-in tone and volume controls. Deluxe patent heads, built-in covers. Without amplifier. . . . . **\$37.50 (A)**



## Kay electric mandolin

**K-95** Designed especially for ensemble playing. True mandolin tone. Built-in high fidelity magnetic pick-up unit with tone and volume controls. Concert size, 26 3/4" long, 10 3/8" wide. Spruce top. Laminated maple back and sides. White celluloid binding on top and back edges. Rosewood fingerboard with 9 position markers and white celluloid binding. Deluxe patent heads with built-in covers. Adjustable rosewood bridge. Nickel-plated tailpiece with removable cover. White celluloid guardplate. Beautiful violin brown finish with golden sunburst on top and back. Hand rubbed and polished. Price without amplifier. . . . . **\$60 (A)**



*All Kay mandolins have fully arched tops and backs, adjustable bridges and celluloid guardplates. Laminated construction for long life and trouble-free service. Necks are scientifically graduated for ease of playing. Fine quality strings.*

*Kay*

## mandolins



**K-72** Master Venetian-shape model with superb tone. Selected spruce top with curly maple back and sides. Extra wide white celluloid binding with black inlay on top and back edges. Maple neck with shell headpiece bound in white celluloid and white celluloid heelplate. Rosewood fingerboard with 6 position markers of inlaid mother-of-pearl, celluloid bound. Concert size 26 $\frac{1}{4}$ " long, 10" wide. Hand rubbed and polished. Rich, dark violin brown color.....**\$65**

K-74 Modern blonde finish .....\$65



**K-64** All maple, pear shape. Ebonized maple fingerboard. White stripe on top and back edges. Adjustable bridge. 26 $\frac{1}{4}$ " long, 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide. Also has all of the general Kay features listed at top of page. Lustrous shaded dark walnut finish with golden sunburst on top and back **\$23.50**



**K-68** Spruce top, mahogany back and sides. Large size, pear shape. 26 $\frac{3}{4}$ " long, 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide. White celluloid bound top and back edges. Rosewood fingerboard with 9 position markers. Hand rubbed and polished. Natural color finish. **\$32.50**



**K-70** Venetian shape, deluxe model with close-grained spruce top, curly maple back and sides, maple neck and rosewood fingerboard with 9 position markers. Heavy celluloid binding top and back edges and fingerboard. Concert size, 26 $\frac{1}{4}$ " long, 10" wide. Unexcelled tone. Two piece nickel-plated tailpiece with removable cover. Hand rubbed and polished, shaded reddish brown finish with golden sunburst top and back. **\$44**



# Kay banjos

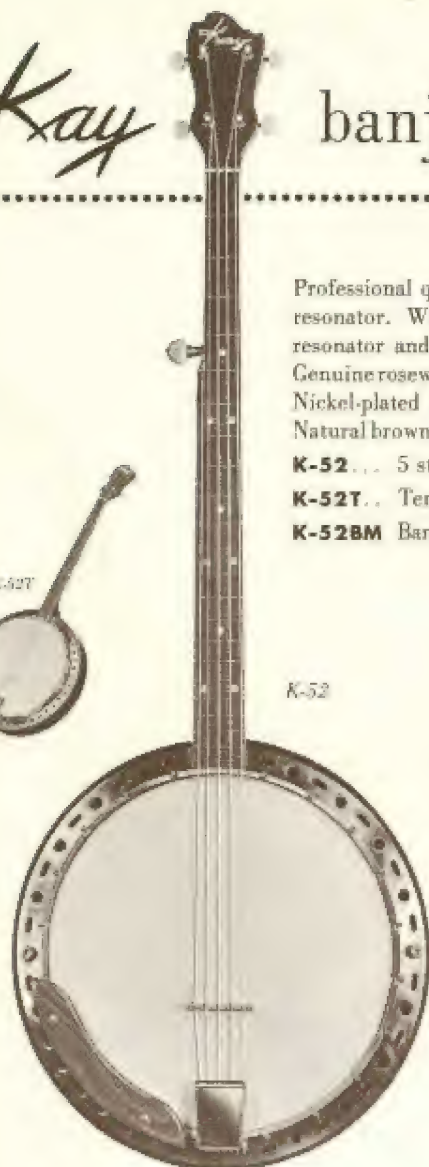
*Experience in design and production is particularly important in the creation of a fine banjo. Kay is one of the largest and oldest manufacturers of banjos in the world.*

Professional quality Kay. Laminated mahogany shell and resonator. White celluloid binding on both edges of resonator and on fingerboard. Hard "rock" maple neck. Genuine rosewood fingerboard with inlaid position markers. Nickel-plated flange. 20 brackets. Best calfskin head. Natural brown mahogany color. Hand rubbed and polished.

- K-52** . . . 5 string banjo . . . . . **\$60**  
**K-52T** . . . Tenor banjo (small illustration) . . . . . **\$60**  
**K-52BM** Banjo Mandolin (not illustrated) . . . . . **\$60**



K-52

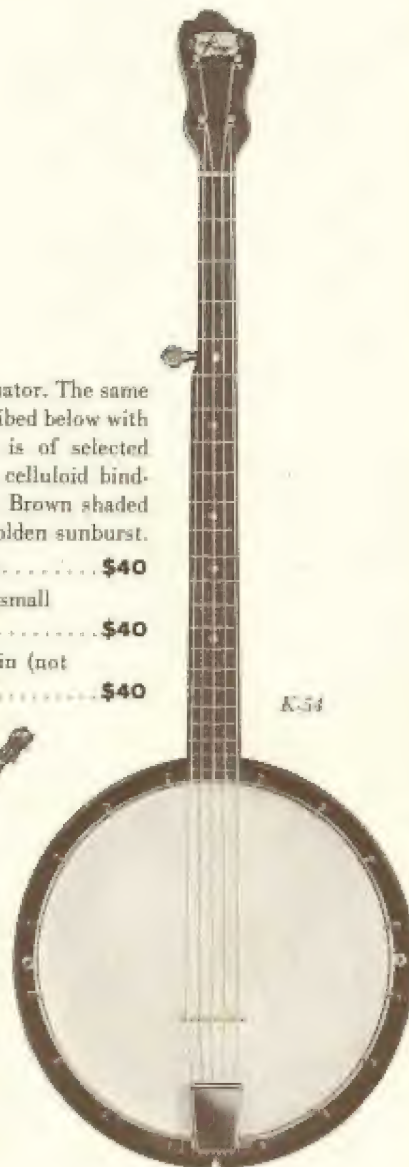


Deluxe model with resonator. The same quality instrument described below with a resonator. Resonator is of selected curly maple with white celluloid binding on the bottom edge. Brown shaded finish with a beautiful golden sunburst.

- K-54** . . . 5 string banjo . . . . . **\$40**  
**K-54T** . . . Tenor banjo (small illustration) . . . . . **\$40**  
**K-54BM** Banjo Mandolin (not illustrated) . . . . . **\$40**



K-54



K-53



K-53T



Curly maple shell. Hard "rock" maple neck. Genuine rosewood fingerboard with professional brass frets. Inlaid position markers. Stainless steel tension hoop. Sixteen nickel-plated brackets. Good quality calfskin head. Beautiful golden color with brown shading.

- K-53** . . . 5 string banjo . . . . . **\$30**  
**K-53T** . . . Tenor banjo (small illustration) . . . **\$30**  
**K-53BM** Banjo Mandolin (not illustrated) . . **\$30**



Kay





**BASSES AND CELLOS  
PREFERRED TO  
ALL OTHERS COMBINED**





The original Kay company dates back to the founding of the Groeschel Company . . . manufacturers of high quality mandolins, in the year 1890.

After a reorganization in 1918, the firm's name became the Stromberg-Voisinet Company. And four years later, the excellent work of S-V craftsmen attracted a new (and present-day) owner, Henry Kay Kuhrmeyer, under whose direction the Kay Musical Instrument Company has become

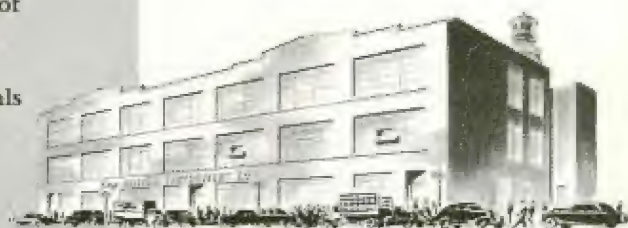
***the largest manufacturer of basses  
and cellos in the world!***

Though modern methods, improved designs and new machines have been added through the years, Kay's huge production of today is still grounded in the craftsmanship of men who know from a lifetime of experience how to build the finest string instruments.

As the pages of this catalog reveal, Kay offers a complete line of moderately-priced instruments, as well as those of artist and professional quality. But regardless of price, you'll find a Kay reflects the care in construction, the quality of materials and the heritage of quality craftsmanship that has made Kay a famous name the world over.

*Kay*

**QUALITY CRAFTSMANSHIP  
SINCE 1890**



## **ONLY KAY BASSES AND CELLOS HAVE THESE WONDERFUL FEATURES**

**GUARANTEED crackproof CONSTRUCTION** More than \$100,000 has been spent to develop and perfect Kay's exclusive method of laminating thin-ply violin woods to accurate, artist model dimensions. Kay basses and cellos are virtually crackproof and shock-resistant. They are guaranteed for one year, as outlined on guarantee cards attached to each instrument.

**PERMA-SPEED NECK** A special penetrating solution is applied to necks of Kay basses and cellos, instead of varnish. Result is a long-lasting and super-smooth finish *that speeds technique!*

**FULLY ARCHED TOPS AND BACKS.** Kay's use of methods that accurately reproduce the size and shape of "Old Master" cellos and basses explains why each and every Kay responds with a beautiful, full tone.

**BALANCED-TONE STRINGS** Every Kay bass or cello has a matched set of finest quality strings . . . unsurpassed for balance of tone quality and clarity.



Big presses mold and permanently bond cross laminations with urea resin glue . . . eliminating cracking and warping due to temperature or climatic changes. Extra rigidity also amplifies and glorifies tone.

### **STUDENT *aligned* MODELS, TOO**

In addition to professional models, Kay now offers specially aligned basses and cellos for students of all ages.



The fact that more prominent players use Kay basses than any other make is in itself evidence that a Kay out-performs them all. And the fact that additional thousands of players in both professional and school orchestras use Kays is evidence of their remarkable serviceability.

Available in various models, there's a Kay for every need, every purse. Regardless of your selection, expect a full measure of wonderful performance from any Kay bass . . . together with the serviceability that Kay laminated construction methods alone give you.

## CONCERT

KAY BASS VIOL

C-1 \$250

Preferred by thousands for its beautiful tone and unusual carrying power.

Equally admired for its graceful design and rich appearance.

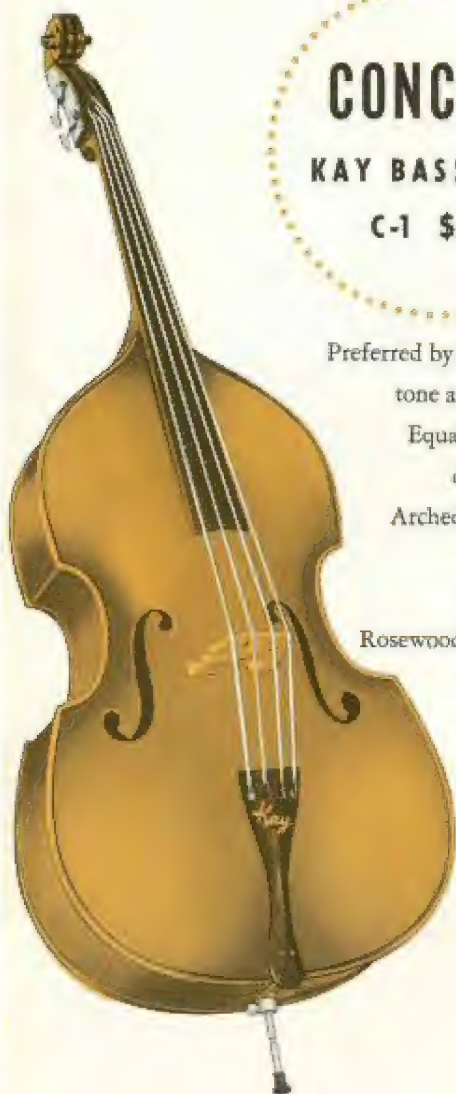
Arched spruce top; figured maple sides and arched back.

*Perma-Speed* maple neck.

Rosewood fingerboard and tailpiece.

Shaded light brown finish, beautifully high-lighted.

Regulation  $\frac{3}{4}$  size only.



## SUPREME

KAY'S FINEST BASS

S-8 \$330



Used in many of the country's leading symphony orchestras and string ensembles, this instrument possesses a remarkably rich and vibrant tone that is balanced throughout the entire range. Concert size thickness of body and other measurements are the same as those perfected by the Old Masters.

Close-grain spruce top; choice curly maple back and sides. Fully Arched *Perma-Speed* hard maple neck. Carved scroll. Genuine ebony fingerboard and tailpiece. Hand inlaid purfling on top and back edges, also around "f" holes. Nickel plated tuning head. Finished in golden brown with light sunburst on top and back. Hand rubbed and polished. Regulation  $\frac{3}{4}$  size only.

## KAY BASS BOWS



Butler Style.

French Style.

No. 10 Butler Style. Select lemonwood stick. Full lined ebony finish composition frog. Leather grip. (Illustrated) . . . . . \$12

No. 11 French Style. Select lemonwood stick. Full lined ebony finish composition frog. Leather grip. (Not Illustrated) . . . . . \$12

No. 12 French Style. Genuine Pernambuco wood stick . . . precision balanced. Full lined ebony frog. Leather grip. (Illustrated) . . . . . \$32.50





## 4 STRING PROFESSIONAL BASS VIOL

**MAESTRO** — One of Kay's finest models. Known everywhere for its rich, vibrant tone. Used by many of the country's leading bass players, both "legit" and jazz, because it is made according to the measurements, specifications and materials perfected by the Old Masters. Distinctive violin shape.

**No. M-1B** — Regulation  $\frac{3}{4}$  size. Fully arched top and back. Curly maple back and sides, spruce top, maple neck. Rosewood fingerboard and tailpiece. Crackproof laminated construction. Specially aligned for both bowing and plucking. Beautiful natural blonde finish. . . . . **\$275**

*Also available in shaded brown finish. (No. M-1) ... \$275*

### *Blondes*

#### **... for showmanship!**

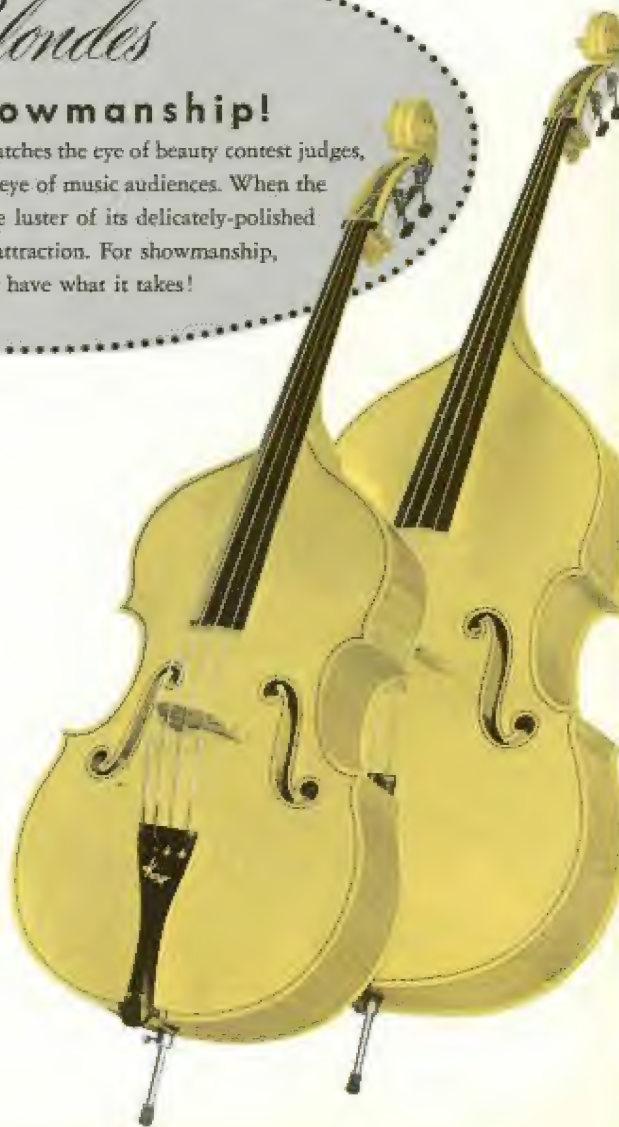
Just as an attractive "blonde" catches the eye of beauty contest judges, so the Kay blonde basses catch the eye of music audiences. When the spotlight hits a Kay "blonde" the luster of its delicately-polished surface makes you the big attraction. For showmanship, Kay "blondes" have what it takes!

**SWINGMASTER** — Choice of leading radio, recording and dance band artists. And it looks the part! Responds quickly to plucking or bowing — producing a clear, concise tone. Carrying power is amazing.

**No. S-9** — Select, close-grain spruce top; choice curly-maple back and sides. *Perma-Speed* finished hard "rock" maple neck. Hand inlaid purfling. Bright nickel Vernier tuning gear. Genuine ebony fingerboard and tailpiece. Specially aligned for both bowing and plucking. Matched Squier strings. Natural blonde finish, hand rubbed and polished to a smooth luster. . . . . **\$330**

**MIGHTY MIDGET** — Just as its name implies, a lot of bass in a small package. A full one-third smaller than regulation, it has the same range, same fingering — and a surprisingly robust tone. Specially aligned for bowing and plucking. A favorite with bass men who play in small combos because of the ease in getting it from job to job. Also, because of its unique size, the "Mighty Midget" has a showmanship value all its own!

**No. S-10** — Same specifications as S-9 above, except for size (a third smaller). Blonde finish only. . . . . **\$330**





# 5 STRING KAY BASS VIOLS



These revolutionary bass viols have the standard G, D, A and E strings . . . plus an added high C string. The player thereby has at his command not only a 25% greater range . . . he also can play nearly 4 octaves within 4 positions! More than just another model, here is a completely new instrument that makes playing easier, provides rich cello-tone highs that are written into many modern arrangements. Kay designers have provided extra strength to withstand the greater pull exerted by the 5 strings . . . yet, have preserved a full, balanced tone throughout the entire range. Specially aligned for both bowing and plucking.

## CHUBBY JACKSON MODEL S-51

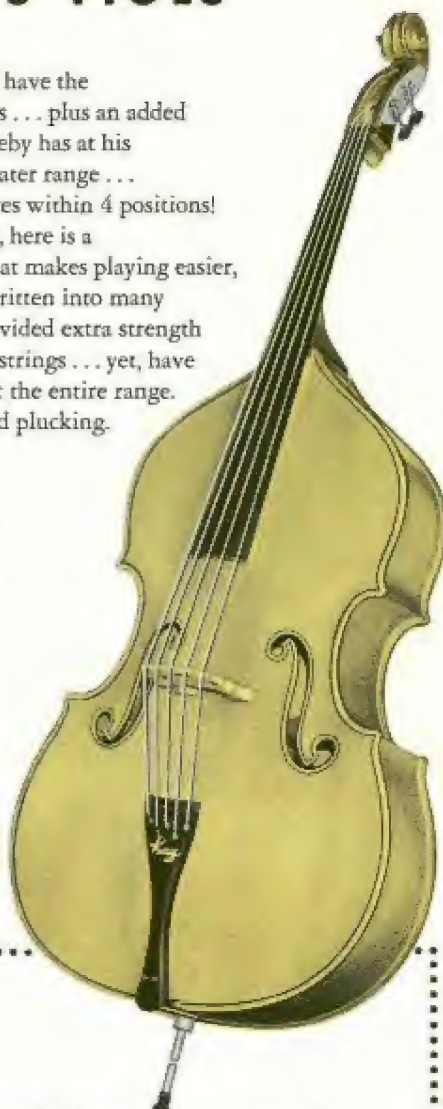


Originated by Chubby Jackson and developed by Kay craftsmen. Close-grained spruce top; highly figured curly maple sides and back.

*Perma-Speed* "rock" maple neck. Carved scroll. Genuine ebony fingerboard and tailpiece. Hand inlaid purfling on edges of top and back, also around "f" holes. Nickel plated tuning head. Regulation  $\frac{3}{4}$  size only.

**S-51B** Beautiful honey blonde finish. Hand rubbed and polished. . . . . \$440

**S-51** Shaded golden brown finish with "sun-burst" on front and back. Hand rubbed and polished. . . . . \$440



add 25% to  
your playable range!

Inlaid position markers on edge of fingerboard for positive double-check on intonation.



## STANDARD 5 STRING MODEL

Spruce top; curly maple sides and back. *Perma-Speed* hard maple neck. Select rosewood fingerboard and tailpiece. Brass tuning head. Regulation  $\frac{3}{4}$  size only.

**M-5B** Lustrous natural blonde finish. . . . . \$330

**M-5** Shaded deep brown finish. . . . . \$330

**FREE INSTRUCTION BOOK** that tells how to play Chubby Jackson 4-position method included.

MORE PROFESSIONALS  
USE *Kay* BASSES  
THAN ALL OTHERS COMBINED



Specially  
aligned . . .  
WITH THE  
PROFESSIONAL  
IN MIND

All Kay professional-model bass viols are the result of many years' research and experience . . . designed to respond with equal facility to string bowing or plucking. String radius and spacing, too, are ideal for rapid technique and ease of playing.

## Perma-Speed Neck

ON KAY BASSES  
EXCLUSIVELY!



The most annoying problem in maintenance of string instruments has now been overcome by Kay. Players and manufacturers alike have long recognized that varnish of any kind on the instrument's neck was but a compromise between ease of fingering and durability. Kay's new and exclusive *Perma-Speed* finishing is the answer. Not a varnish, but a special penetrating solution . . . stays smooth indefinitely. No more "drag" to slow technique!

*Perma-Speed Neck*  
ALSO ON ALL  
KAY CELLOS



# KAY SCHOOL CELLOS



**STANDARD**  
No. 60 (full size)  
48½ Inches  
Over-all Length  
Scale Length —  
27½ Inches



**INTERMEDIATE**  
No. 60¼ (¾ size)  
44 Inches  
Over-all Length  
Scale Length —  
25¼ Inches



**JUNIOR**  
No. 60½ (½ size)  
40¼ Inches  
Over-all Length  
Scale Length —  
22¾ Inches

These three cellos are designed and aligned especially for school use. Recommended age groups for each are indicated below. Fully arched, guaranteed crackproof construction. Tops are of quality spruce, back and sides are maple . . . thin ply for greater resonance, fuller tone. Shaded medium brown finish. *Perma-Speed* finished maple neck — no varnish to wear off or slow technique. Genuine rosewood fingerboard and trim. Equipped with metal A and D strings with adjusters, silver wound G and C strings. Adjustable metal end pins.

**Kay Standard Size Cello** — No. 60 For age group 15 and over. Full adult (4/4) size, but specially aligned for easier fingering and bowing.....\$110

**Kay Intermediate Size Cello** — No. 60¼ For age group 10 to 14. Three-quarter (¾) size.....\$110

**Kay Junior Size Cello** — No. 60½ For age group 8 to 11. One-half (½) size.....\$110

**Kay Cello Bow** — Good quality hardwood stick. Well balanced.  
No. 7 Full size. Each.....\$11.25  
No. 7½ (½ size). Each.....\$11.25

## THE IMPORTANCE OF SIZE AND ALIGNMENT FOR SCHOOL USE

The Kay Junior bass and cello answer a long-felt need for small instruments in grade school orchestras and string ensembles. Music educators in hundreds of schools have adopted their use, and have found that Junior models permit training on bass and cello several years earlier than ever before possible...a great advantage in preparatory training for high school orchestras. Range and fingering of the Junior models are identical to adult size instruments.

All the Kay bass viols and cellos shown on this page are specially aligned for school

orchestra use, conforming to the rigid standards developed by members of the MENC string committee and other leading authorities. Strings are closer to the fingerboard for easier fingering; bowing radius is reduced. Instruments are also lighter in weight, easier to handle, and more responsive.

Cost is only slightly higher than lowest priced student basses and cellos, but the advantages are tremendous! Teen-age beginners will progress much faster on these instruments because they are so much easier to play.



**JUNIOR**  
No. H-10 (¾ size)  
62¼ Inches  
Over-all Length  
Scale Length —  
35¼ Inches

**STANDARD**  
M-1 (Regulation)  
72 Inches  
Over-all Length  
Scale Length —  
42 Inches

# KAY SCHOOL BASSES

Here are two completely new school basses...one in adult size (Standard or regulation ¾ size), and the other a third smaller (Junior or ¼ size). Recommended age groups for each are listed at right. Both instruments are of fully arched, guaranteed crackproof construction. Quality spruce top, fine maple back and sides. Thin-ply gives bigger tone, added response. Dependable vernier tuning gears; genuine rosewood fingerboard. *Perma-Speed* hard maple neck...no finish to wear off or retard technique. Fine quality strings.

**Kay Standard School Bass** — No. M-1 For age group 15 and over. Full adult size (Regulation ¾), but specially aligned for easier fingering and bowing. Shaded light brown finish.....\$275

**Kay Junior Bass** — No. H-10 For age group 10 to 15. Approximately one-third smaller than adult size. Same range and fingering as Standard regulation size bass. Shaded light brown finish.....\$220



# Kay PROFESSIONAL CELLOS

**Supreme** — A master copy of the original Stradivarius, endowed with its delicate tonal shadings and overtone richness. Has the responsiveness that characterizes fine, hand-made instruments. Top is carved from a solid block of close-grain spruce; highly figured curly maple back and sides. *Perma-Speed* maple neck. Genuine ebony finger-board, tailpiece and pegs. Hand inlaid purfling on edge of top and back. Exquisite light golden brown finish, hand rubbed and polished to high lustre. Finest quality strings and two adjusters.

No. 165 Full size.....\$200

*Also available in ¾ and ½ sizes on special order.*

**Artist** — A remarkably fine artist-quality cello whose wonderful performance has made it the favorite of thousands. Select spruce top. Finest curly maple back and sides. *Perma-Speed* maple neck. Genuine ebony fingerboard, tailpiece and pegs. Hand inlaid purfling on edge of top and back; fitted bridge. Shaded light golden brown finish, hand rubbed and polished. Fine quality strings and two adjusters.

No. 100 Full size.....\$150

*Also available in ¾ and ½ sizes on special order.*



**SUPREME  
MODEL 165**



**ARTIST  
MODEL 100**

## FEATURES OF KAY CELLOS

New lightweight construction of thin-ply violin wood permanently laminated . . . shockproof, crackproof. *Perma-Speed* neck. No varnish to slow technique, or wear off. Adjustable metal end pins. Fully arched tops and backs. Aligned for easy fingering and bowing.

Unless otherwise specified, cellos will be supplied in full (4/4) size as shown.

## LOW PRICED KAY CELLOS

**CONCERT** — Though moderately priced, this cello is exceptional both in tone quality and workmanship. It's a handsome instrument, too . . . in shaded light brown violin finish, hand rubbed and polished. Genuine spruce top. Maple back and sides. *Perma-Speed* maple neck. Rosewood fingerboard, tailpiece and pegs. Fine quality strings and two adjusters.

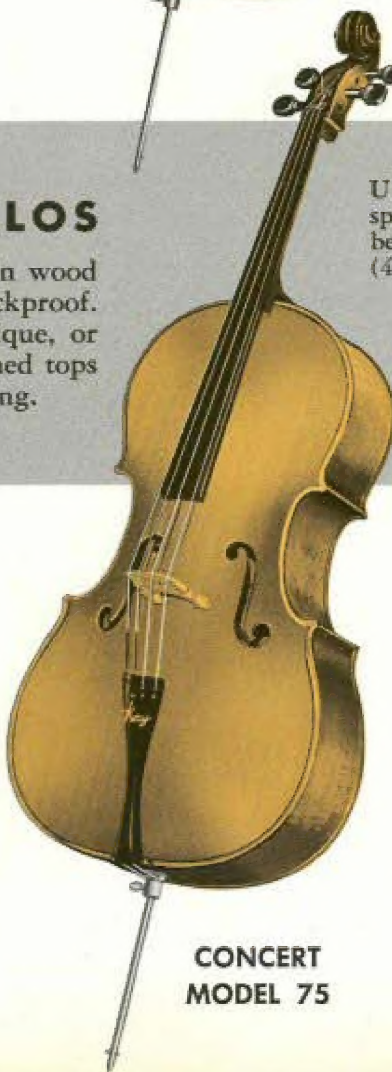
No. 75 Full size.....\$135

*Also available in ¾ and ½ sizes.*

**STUDENT** — A good quality, sturdy student cello. Laminated all-maple body. *Perma-Speed* maple neck. Ebonized hard "rock" maple fingerboard, tailpiece and pegs. Shaded dark brown finish.

No. 55 Full size.....\$89.50

*Also available in ¾ and ½ sizes.*



**CONCERT  
MODEL 75**



**STUDENT  
MODEL 55**





The factory guarantee,  
together with  
instructions on care of  
instrument, are contained  
in booklet included with  
each Kay bass and cello

## THE KAY GUARANTEE

We guarantee this instrument to the original purchaser against defects in material or workmanship for one year from the date of purchase. We agree to repair or replace the instrument, without charge, if found to be defective due to any fault of ours. Transportation costs involved are to be paid by the customer. This guarantee does not cover natural wear of the instrument, replacement of strings or mishandling.

*H. Kay Fubmeyer*

President  
KAY MUSICAL INSTRUMENT CO.



Kay



# REVISED PRICE LIST

## KAY MUSICAL INSTRUMENT CO.

Effective October 1st, 1953

Model No.	Description	Catalog Page Number	Retail Selling Price
K21B	Cut-away Professional Guitar—Blond Finish.....	1	\$215.00
K21S	Cut-away Professional Guitar—Shaded Finish.....	1	200.00
K11B	Professional Guitar—Blond Finish.....	2	120.00
K11S	Professional Guitar—Shaded Finish.....	2	110.00
K45	Arched Guitar—Blond Finish.....	2	89.50
K1	Arched Cut-away Guitar.....	5	72.50
K43	Arched Guitar.....	5	53.50
K37	Arched Guitar—All Mahogany.....	5	43.50
K37T	Arched Tenor Guitar—All Mahogany.....	5	43.50
K34	Arched Guitar.....	5	37.50
K30	Arched Guitar.....	5	29.50
K27	Professional Flat Top Guitar.....	3	\$100.00
K23	Flat Top Guitar—Blond Finish.....	3	75.00
K22	Flat Top Guitar.....	4	59.50
K20	Flat Top Guitar.....	4	45.00
K15	Flat Top Guitar.....	4	36.50
K15T	Flat Top Tenor Guitar.....	4	36.50
K10	Flat Top Guitar—All Mahogany.....	4	29.50
K161	"Thin Twin" 2 Unit Electric Spanish Guitar.....	6	\$137.50 (A)
K161C	Carrying Case for K161 Guitar.....	(not shown)	15.00 (A)
K151	Cut-away Electric Spanish Guitar.....	6	100.00 (A)
K150	Electric Spanish Guitar.....	6	65.00 (A)
K125	Solid Body Electric Spanish Guitar.....	6	49.50 (A)
220-73	Carrying Case for K125 Guitar.....	(not shown)	6.50 (A)
K159	Electric Hawaiian Guitar.....	7	80.00 (A)
K159C	Carrying Case for K159.....	(not shown)	10.00 (A)
K156	Electric Hawaiian Guitar.....	7	39.50 (A)
K156C	Carrying Case for K156.....	(not shown)	7.50 (A)
K95	Electric Mandolin.....	7	65.00 (A)
K162	Electric Bass.....	(not shown)	150.00 (A)
K162C	Carrying Case for Electronic Bass.....	(not shown)	18.25 (A)
K615	6 Tube Amplifier—15" Speaker.....	7	\$167.50 (A)
K600	6 Tube Amplifier—12" Speaker.....	7	155.00 (A)
K300	3 Tube Amplifier—8" Speaker.....	7	67.50 (A)
K74	Deluxe Venetian Mandolin—Blond Finish.....	8	\$ 75.00
K72	Deluxe Venetian Mandolin—Shaded Finish.....	8	70.00
K70	Venetian Mandolin.....	8	49.50
K68	Mandolin.....	8	36.50
K64	Mandolin.....	8	25.00
K52	Professional 5 String Banjo.....	9	\$ 69.50
K52T	Professional Tenor Banjo.....	9	69.50
K52BM	Professional Banjo Mandolin.....	9	69.50
K54	5 String Banjo with Resonator.....	9	45.00
K54T	Tenor Banjo with Resonator.....	9	45.00
K54BM	Banjo Mandolin with Resonator.....	9	45.00
K53	5 String Banjo.....	9	35.00
K53T	Tenor Banjo.....	9	35.00
K53BM	Banjo Mandolin.....	9	35.00